e around the RING

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5 No. 6, Sept. 12 '75



The campus is again packed with students... and cars. (McGill Photo)

IS IT A BIG INCREASE?

Whether UVic is experiencing a major enrolment increase was anybody's guess earlier this week.

R.A. Shimmin, director of Registration Services, had registration figures on Monday, but he declined to speculate on what they mean until further developments, such as late registration and off-campus enrolment, take place.

As of Monday, the total for undergraduate part-time and full-time students was 6,789, some 5,360 of these being full-time students. Of the total, 1,752 are first-year students.

Compared to this time last year, "it would appear that full-time enrolment is up by 400."

Mr. Shimmin said that last year UVic, in having a record enrolment jump of 899 students, had an abnormally high amount of 500 late registrants, which is not expected this year.

He did speculate that because of the great amount of publicity warning about

a huge increase, it could well be "we have most of the students in."

The deadline for late registration is today. Registration for graduate students had not been completed, but the total is usually around 400 students.

Last year, the official total of all winter session students was 6,968.

Definite factors in keeping UVic's enrolment under control this year were enforcement of a July 31 application deadline and raising the entrance standard from C to C plus.

Dr. Esme Foord, director of Admissions, said that some 650 first-year applications were turned down this year, an unheard-of figure for UVic.

The higher entrance standards have been reflected in the number of first-year students who will be required to take the literacy course, English 111.

Dr. Victor Neufeldt, director of freshman English, said the number of students who failed the entrance literacy test is "substantially down" over last year.

This year, there will be 15 sections of English 111, compared to 22 last year, he said.

Meanwhile, a moratorium on parking fees was to be imposed by Tom O'Connor, superintendent of Traffic and Security.

As of Monday morning, his office had only 200 permits left, which he expected would be gone by the afternoon.

Last year, the office ran out of permits on September 29. "This is crazy. Here it is the first day of classes, and we are almost out of permits."

He said he suspected that all the publicity about the campus being hard-pressed for space made most people get their permits earlier than usual.

Traffic and Security has introduced a car pool system this year, and so far it is not being well-used.

Mr. O'Connor said this is likely because students won't know what their schedules will be until later this month.

As an incentive to use the system, his office will give complete refunds up to the end of September to all but one of any group that wants to join.

This will, of course, open up more spaces for other persons or other car pools.

HOUSING CRISIS AVOIDED

A student housing crisis seems to have been averted, despite increased enrolment and a growing lack of space throughout Greater Victoria.

"If there is a sensational story here, it is sensational that we have been able to cope," said Mrs. Shirley Baker, Housing Services manager.

Mrs. Baker said that again there has been "an excellent response from the community". Whereas last year, when the community responded to university pleas and offered 850 accommodation spaces. this year it has come up with about 1,000.

As of last week, there were still many places to rent, mostly board-and-room situations, on the Housing Services display boards.

Mrs. Baker added that certainly not all students, especially those who are married and/or have children, have found housing.

Another reason why major problems were avoided this year was that Housing Services had been prepared, and had hired three students to work full-time during the summer on finding off-campus housing.

"Last year the big jump in enrolment was a complete surprise."

She speculated that, because of the situation last year and all the publicity about housing shortages this year, many students either held on to their accommodation or came early to Victoria to secure room.

Meanwhile, Housing Services together with the Alma Mater Society have been handing out student housing questionnaires to all students completing the registration process.

The aim of the survey is to come up with "hard facts" on student housing shortages for future submissions to government for construction of on-campus residences.

Mrs. Baker said that apparently the Universities Council of B.C. has turned down bids for construction funds partly because of a lack of solid statistics.

Mrs. Baker and AMS President Clayton Shold, in a last-minute move before registration, came up with the questionnaires, which have been based on ones used at Simon Fraser University.

The results, which will be put through a computer, should be ready sometime this fall.

Mr. Shold said that students were giving 100 per cent co-operation in responding to questionnaires.

THEY FOUND A PLACE

UVic student Pat Rushford and his fouryear-old daughter Jackie have finally found a decent place to live, thanks to an overwhelming response from the community.

Mr. Rushford had been searching futilely for adequate quarters since April, and had only a few days left before he and Jackie had to leave temporary quar-

The story of the Rushfords' plight had been published in Around the Ring and picked up by The Victoria Times and local and Vancouver television.

The result was 80 calls into UVic's Housing Services offices, most of them offering some sort of accommodation to the beleaguered pair. He took a onebedroom apartment in an almost new house near the campus.

"The concern of some of the people practically made me cry," said Mr. Rushford.

"A lot of them said they didn't want me to have to quit university or give up Jackie."

He said some of the callers were "weirdos", such as those who wanted to adopt Jackie or women who offered to live with him.

Mr. Rushford, 29, was a child care worker in Kelowna who decided to upgrade his education with UVic's Child Care programme. He had pounded streets. put ads in local newspapers and on radio stations, and had run into "a hundred deadends".

A local homefinding agency had refused his enlistment fee because he is a student, is divorced and has a child - three factors that would make it impossible for the agency to find him a place.





The first student to register in UVic's new Faculty of Law is Ms. Ellen Bond, Nanaimo, accompanied by her son Ian, 4.
Signing her in is Rick
Trueman, the faculty's
administrative assistant.
Ms. Bond was followed by 71 others. Above is an innovation to the cam-pus, a timetable assist-ance desk set up in the Faculty of Education. Tom Probst, right, presiof the Education Student Association, helps out two out of hundreds of bewildered new students who had used the service. "The highest confusion factor for freshman is definitely the timetable." He said another reason behind the new service is "having students talking to stu-"having dents about how best to go about doing things."

(McGill Photos)

A NOISY CAMPUS

Even in its quiet times, UVic can be a noisy campus. That is what Dr. Walter Barss (Physics) found when he and student assistant Tom Dutton took acoustic tests this summer throughout its buildings.

"Some areas were not as acoustically bad as I first suspected, but some were worse," said Dr. Barss, who is UVic's resident sound, specialist.

He and Mr. Dutton have just completed a report detailing findings and putting forth recommendations on how improvements may be made. Copies of the report will be circulated to interested departments and made available at McPherson Library.

"We learned a lot in making the survey, and I hope the information on different rooms will be of interest to those concerned."

Dr. Barss said Campus Planning Director Ian Campbell is "well aware of these deficiencies and is trying to provide acoustically sound buildings when money permits."

In the report abstract, it was stated that specific treatments are suggested in a few cases "but the general intention is to increase awareness of the need for acoustical specifications and testing in the construction of university buildings."

The report concluded generally that while many classrooms are acoustically acceptable many rooms have excessive background noise levels due to lighting and ventilating systems.

Several areas are "too reverberant for good intelligibility of speech, especially with small audiences". The MacLaurin 144 lecture theatre is "acoustically too dead for satisfactory use as a concert hall and not even very satisfactory for lectures", and "some rooms, especially those used for computer terminals, have insufficient absorption for the noisy equipment in them."

A common fault in most buildings is distracting noise from both fluorescent lighting and ventilations systems.

The report urges effort be made to reduce noise from present lighting fixtures. "In addition, noise production limits should be specified before lighting fixtures are ordered for any new building."

Noise from ventilation systems stems from three areas: the central units, the duct work, and the grilles at the entrances to individual rooms. Noise can be reduced in central units and duct work by addition of absorbent materials, and in grilles by careful relocation and better shaping.

Following are some observations on each building tested:

McKinnon Centre: Ventilation creates high levels of noise in some areas, espe-



The new University Gardens should be open by mid-October, according to Rex Murfitt, superintendent of Grounds. As shown in this photo, where Education student Stu Calder and his dog McCormick are romping, the first stage of punching in a main pathway and clearing underbrush away has been finished in the treed acreage near the beginning of Ring Road. The basis for UVic's first exotic gardens will be an invaluable rhododendron collection consisting of 350 plants representing about 100 various species, most of them Asiatic, which were bequeathed by Mrs. Jeanne Simpson of Lake Cowichan. Most of the plants are in a holding area on campus, and some are yet to be transported from the Simpson property, which UVic now owns. The gardens will have nature paths and lighting for night-time enjoyment of the area. Open areas will be seeded for grass.

cially the main gymnasium. The gym, though acoustically adequate for recreational activities, would be inadequate doubling as an auditorium or meeting place. "In its present state, the main gymnasium would probably not be a very satisfactory location for the annual convocation ceremonies, though possibly better than the Victoria Memorial Arena." Some steps are being taken to muffle the ventilation system, and it is urged recommendations of the acoustical consulting firm of Barron and Strachan (Vancouver) on the gymnasium be carried out when funding is available. It was also noted that the dance studio, which is also used for yoga, is too noisy for the type of activities held there.

MacLaurin Building: Reverberation in Room 144, a lecture theatre and a concert hall, is satisfactory for speech and definitely too low for music. However, lecturers as well as musicians complain about the deadness of the room. This may be attributed to the lack of a raised platform, the rear wall being too effective an absorber, and the lack of nearby surfaces to reflect part of the sound back toward the speaker or performer. As for music rooms 166, 168 and 169, the reverberation times are too short for music, but satisfactory for lecturing if the rooms are fairly full. The language and listening laboratories complex is victim to a large source of noise from the local ventilation system. Room 214, a recording studio (a purpose for which it was not designed), receives impact noises from corridor traffic, excessive background noise not only from lighting and ventilation, but from what appears to be heavy power transformers and from the battery of food vending machines on the floor below. "Hopefully, the new extension to the Clearihue Building will provide better location for the labs." Lecture halls 101 and 103 have unacceptably high background noise from lights and ventilating systems.

McPherson Library: Noise levels seem acceptable in most areas of the building, except for the Media and Technical Services television studios in the basement. The main studio has too much ventilation noise, and the smaller studio somewhat less. Both are hampered by the sound of heel clicks from the uncarpeted office floor above and from the mechanical noise of an adjacent elevator.

Cunningham: "The general noise level throughout the building is very high." It would take major modifications to the ventilation system to reduce this.

Cornett: Though there are some noisy areas, "the over-all sound absorption for most rooms is generally satisfactory." This is largely attributed to the majority of enclosures being lined with unpainted concrete blocks, which constitutes a reasonable absorbing surface."

Elliott: High noise levels are present in classrooms, lecture theatres and particularly in the undergraduate laboratories, because of the ventilation systems. It was also noted that reverberation in both theatres is excessive for lectures, and that the sound isolation between classrooms is inadequate.

Clearibue: The noise levels are generally acceptable, except for the high-speed computer terminal and keypunch rooms in the basement, and Clearihue 267, the case study room. The problems in these areas could be easily resolved.

The Colleges: The Landsdowne residences seem to be less desirable acoustically, than the Craigdarroch group, but both are generally acceptable.

TOUR 'MIND-EXPANDING'

The UVic Rugby Club is back from a "very successful" tour of Argentina and Uruguay - its third international tour since 1968.

In its six games with top-seeded clubs through three weeks of August, it won three and lost three.

"The win-loss record doesn't matter," said Howard Gerwing (Special Collections), general manager of the club. "The idea of the tour was to expand the players' minds a bit, and that certainly happened."

He said the hospitality of the South Americans was superb. "They wined and dined us and opened up their hearts to us."

The scores were as follows: Belgrano Atlético Club14, UVic 7; San Isidro Club 28, UVic 15; Club Atlético Obras Sanitarias, 15, UVic 12; the Belgrano Veterans 4, UVic 43; the Uruguayan National Team 4, UVic 12; and a Uruguayan select youth side, 13, UVic 30.

Mr. Gerwing said that UVic only used its strongest side in the game against the Uruguayan Nationals, while during the other games, so all 25 members could play, a mixture of the strongest and most inexperienced.

He noted that UVic could have won five of the games.

As reflected in the scores, "Argentina rugby is strong, and Uruguayan teams, which are second to Argentina in calibre of rugby in South America, needs to improve their scrummage."

Total cost of the tour was \$28,025. The club had raised \$10,000, while the rest came out of the pockets of the team members.

Previous tours were to England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales in 1969, and to Australia and Fiji in 1972.

FACULTY NEWS

PSYCHOLOGY

Dr. David Walker, who is doing biofeedback research on diabetes, has received a \$980 grant from the Victoria Chapter of the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Dr. Janet Beavin Bavelas has completed a book, Current Issues in Personality Theory and Research, for Brookes /Cole publishers. She has also had an article published in the July issue of Behavioral Science, "Systems analysis of dvadic interaction: the role of interpersonal judgment."

Dr. Loren Acker has been invited to speak at the first Interamerican Conference on Behavior Modification to be held this spring in Winnipeg.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, September 12

Meeting, Faculty of Arts and Science. Elliott 167. 3:30 p.m. 7:15 p.m.

Cinecenta Films, MacLaurin 144. "College Confidential" (1960) and "Dr. Frankenstein on Campus" (1970). Students - \$1.00.

SATURDAY, September 13

Cinecenta Films, MacLaurin 144. "American Graffiti" (1973). 7:00 p.m.

Students - \$1.00. Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. 9:15 p.m. "American Graffiti" (1973) Students - \$1.00.

SUNDAY, September 14

Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "American Graffiti" (1973). 7:30 p.m. Students - \$1.00.

MONDAY, September 15

Board of Governors. Meeting. 1:00 p.m. Meeting,
Gold Room.
Faculty Association. Meeting, Faculty Club. 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, September 17

Poetry Reading. John Montague, Elliott 167. 4:30 p.m. visiting poet from Ireland.

Reception. University Women's Club. Home of J.A. Gerry, 1509 7:30 P.M. Rockland. New members welcome.

THURSDAY, September 18

Meeting, Faculty of Fine Arts. 12:30 p.m. MacLaurin 191.

FRIDAY, September 19

Music at Noon, MacLaurin 144. 12:30 p.m. "The Shooting" (1967) and "Ride the Whirlwind" (1967). Students - \$1.00. 7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, September 20

Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "Chinatown" (1974). Students - \$1.00. Cinecenta Films. MacLaurin 144. "Chinatown" (1974). Students - \$1.00. 7:00 p.m.

9:15 p.m.



Published every Friday by University Relations Director - Maurice Cownden Editor - Bryan McGill Art Editor - Jim Bennett Deadline, noon Friday one week before publication

AROUND THE RING UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA NEWSLETTER VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA